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- and Yellowlegs) December 16–September 1. Exceptions: Alabama, December 16–November 1; Louisiana and Tennessee, December 16–October 1; Arizona, December 16–October 15, Utah, Snipe, December 16–October 1; plover and Yellowlegs, closed until September 1, 1918.
- X. provides for hearings regarding proposed changes in the regulations. Applications should be made to the secretary of Agriculture and applicants should be prepared to show necessity for changes and submit evidence other than that based on personal convenience.

These regulations seem to us eminently fair and the sportsman's interests have been given as much consideration as was compatible with the saving of the birds from extinction. Naturally there will be objections especially from points near zone or state boundaries, where different laws prevail on either side, as in southern New Jersey where Reedbird shooting is prohibited while on the other side of the Delaware River in the state of Delaware it is permitted. It seems unfortunate that the shooting of this bird could not have been stopped entirely except on the rice plantations of the south. Critics of the regulations should bear in mind that the welfare of each species as a whole has been the guiding principle of the committee, and without more or less drastic action at the present time the shooting of various birds would cease entirely in a short time, not through legislation but through the extermination of the species. Let all parties work together for the enforcement of the regulations irrespective of personal opinion or inconvenience for five years and it will be interesting to see what results will be apparent.— W. S.

**Townsend's 'Sand Dunes and Salt Marshes.'**<sup>1</sup>—Dr. Townsend is already well known as a writer on nature and the present volume will be read with much interest by all who love the 'great outdoors'. He combines with an attractive style the keen observation of a trained field naturalist and the scientific regard for absolute accuracy, and his writings are therefore peculiarly satisfying.

The present volume deals mainly with the dunes and marshes of Ipswich, Massachusetts, and is based upon observations made during summer vacations and other brief visits during some twenty years. The chapter headings are: Sand Dunes; Tracks and Trackings; Vegetation in the Dunes; Land Birds of the Dunes; Swallow Roosts and Swallow Migration; Water Birds seen from the Dunes; The Harbor Seal; Salt Marshes—Their Past and Future; Birds of the Salt Marshes; The Horseshoe Crab and other Denizens of Sand and Mud;—and lastly a chapter on Bird Genealogy reprinted from 'The Auk' for July, 1912.

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<sup>1</sup> Sand Dunes | and | Salt Marshes. | By | Charles Wendell Townsend, M. D. | Author of "The Birds of Essex County," "Along the Labrador Coast," "A Labrador Spring" and "Captain Cartwright and His | Labrador Journal" | with numerous illustrations from Photographs | Boston | Dana Estes & Company | Publishers. 8vo. 1-311.

The ornithologist will find many of these sketches replete with observations on bird habits and behavior.

The flight of gulls, the courtship of wild ducks, the booming of the bittern and the plumage changes of the sandpipers are all discussed. Besides, the Ipswich Sparrow, Pipit, Shore Lark and a few other land birds which one naturally expects to find along the shore, a surprising list of warblers — twenty-one species — has been observed among the dune trees in migration times.

In the make-up of Dr. Townsend's book the publishers have done their part well and the typography and binding are as attractive as is the text.—W. S.

**Bailey's 'The Birds of Virginia.'**<sup>1</sup>—The wealth of excellent illustrations and the admirable typography unite in making Mr. Bailey's book one of the most attractive state lists that has yet appeared. The halftones are from photographs by the author and by many of his correspondents in different parts of the country, especially Messrs. C. F. Stone, O. E. Baynard, Thomas H. Jackson, W. Otto Emerson and Verdi Burtch, while the color plates are from paintings by Mr. E. L. Poole of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, a young artist who gives much promise as a portrayer of animal and bird life.

The text consists of a statement of the range of each species reprinted from the A. O. U. Check-List with occasional alterations by the author and about a page descriptive of nest and eggs, local distribution, abundance and economic status; acknowledgment being made to the U. S. Department of Agriculture for data on the food of a number of species.

The matter thus presented combined with the extremely attractive make-up of the book will go far to realizing one of the objects of the publication, as set forth in the preface — namely to stimulate interest in our native birds and their welfare. Such a stimulus has long been needed in Virginia and other southern states and for this purpose especially Mr. Bailey's book should be welcomed. It is to be regretted however, that the text could not have been given the benefit for a careful editorial revision, for while remarkably free from typographical errors it is carelessly and loosely thrown together evidently under pressure of time with the result of being sometimes distinctly ungrammatical.

With regard to the author's second aim, to provide a "thorough systematic work on the breeding birds of the state for the needs of the advanced ornithologists of our country," his volume is adequate so far as containing probably all the species and subspecies which breed in Virginia but it is frequently lacking in the detailed data that characterize modern ornithologi-

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<sup>1</sup> The Birds of Virginia | By | Harold H. Bailey | with fourteen full page colored plates | one map, and one hundred and eight | half-tones taken from nature | treating one hundred and eighty-five species and subspecies: | all the birds that breed within the state | 1913 | J. P. Bell Company, Inc. | Publisher | Lynchburg, Va. | 8vo. pp. i-xxiii, and 1-362.